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PATENT  
Attorney Docket No. HIRA1140

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IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Applicant: Mukouyama et al. Art Unit: 1651  
Application No.: 09/408,142 Examiner: Marx, I.  
Filed: September 29, 1999  
Title: METHODS FOR PRODUCING L-ASPARTIC ACID

Commissioner for Patents  
Washington, D.C. 20231

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RESPONSE

Sir:

Responsive to the Office Action mailed February 5, 2002 (Paper No. 14), entry of the amendments and reconsideration of the application in view of the following remarks are respectfully requested.

CERTIFICATION UNDER 37 CFR §1.8

I hereby certify that the documents referred to as enclosed herein are being deposited with the United States Postal Service as first class mail on June 5, 2002, in an envelope addressed to: Commissioner for Patents, Washington, D.C. 20231

*Karen LePari*  
Karen LePari